

A STUDY OF LIFE SATISFACTION BETWEEN
FULLTIME HOUSEWIVES AND WIVES
EMPLOYED FULLTIME OUTSIDE THE
HOME IN THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

By

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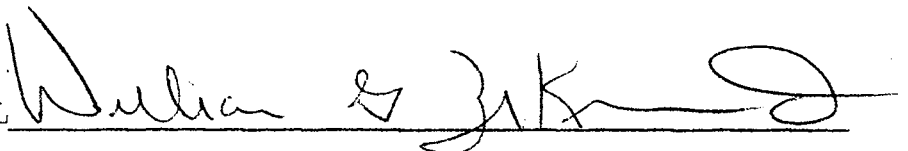
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Scope and Method of Study: Differences in the perceived quality of life between working wives and housewives have been the subject of many studies. However, many of these studies are inconclusive and flawed. This study has attempted to determine these differences in perceived quality of life by analyzing various attitudinal responses and some moderating demographic variables. The 1979 State of Oklahoma Survey, a secondary data source, provided a population sample for the analysis. A "pooled variance estimate" T-Test was used to test for significant differences between the two groups of wives.

Findings and Conclusions: The results of this study failed to show major significant differences between dual wives and housewives. While not all variables were significant, all of the significant variables dealing with feelings about present life supported the viewpoint that dual wives have a more interesting, harder, worthwhile, full, hopeful, and enabling life. Dual wives were also more satisfied with their education, health, and life as a whole. Some variables showed that housewives in some demographic categories may be more satisfied with their neighborhood, life in the United States, housekeeping, spare time, standard of living, and savings and investments. From this analysis, it is concluded that no simple differences between the two groups exist. The significant differences are moderated by demographics and the specific aspects of life satisfaction under consideration.

ADVISER'S APPROVAL




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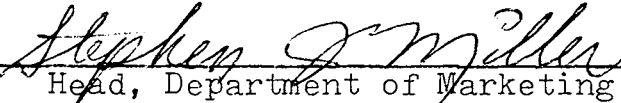
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Women's place in the workforce has been continually increasing since the turn of the century. In 1890, 18 per cent of all women were employed. In 1940, this proportion had risen to 28 per cent and by 1965 it had reached 37 per cent.¹ Women's labor force participation in 1970 was 43 per cent and increased to about 50 per cent in 1978. In fact, in June 1978, the monthly participation rate passed 50 per cent for the first time in the United States history. This level was maintained for the rest of 1978. While more and more women have been entering the labor market, men's participation rate has decreased. Between 1970 and 1978, men's participation rate in the labor force fell from 81 per cent to 78 per cent.²

Women's increased level of education can be seen as a factor in women's changing role in the job market. A high level of education will have a positive impact on the decision to enter the job market. There is a definite positive relationship between the level of education and participation in the labor force.

In 1978, the lowest level of participation in the labor force was by women who did not graduate from high school. Only 32 per cent of this group were in labor force.

On the other hand, the highest participation rate in the labor force was by women with four or more years of college. Over 66 per cent of this group were in the labor force.³

As indicated, when the level of education increases, the participation in the labor force increases. Between 1970 and 1978, the general level of education of women has increased. The number of years of school completed by women 25 to 29 years old increased between 1970 and 1978. For example, women in this age bracket who did not complete high school decreased from 25.8 per cent in 1970 to 15.5 per cent in 1978. During this same period, college education increased among women. In 1970, 13.7 per cent of the women in this age category had one to three years of college and in 1978, this had increased to 21.3 per cent. Also, those with four or more years of college went from 12.9 per cent in 1970 to 20.6 per cent in 1978.⁴

As these data show, women are presently striving to achieve a higher level of education than they did in the past. Between 1970 and 1978, total college enrollment of women 16 to 34 years old increased 56.5 per cent. Women's undergraduate enrollment increased 50 per cent and their graduate enrollment increased 103.6 per cent.⁵

Along with women's increased enrollment in college, there is a corresponding increase in the number of degrees received. Comparing the academic years 1969-1970 and 1976-1977, the per cent of bachelor degrees received by women increased from 43.1 per cent to 46.1 per cent. The

per cent of master degrees received by women increased from 39.7 per cent to 47.1 per cent and doctoral degrees showed the most dramatic increase, rising from 13.3 per cent to 24.3 per cent. More than twice as many women received doctoral degrees in 1977 than in 1970.⁶

Women's increasing presence in the work force has been concentrated in four major occupational groups. In 1978, 35 per cent of the women in the work force were clerical workers; 21 per cent were service workers, including private sector household workers; 16 per cent were professional, technical and kindred workers; and 11 per cent were operatives (excluding transport operatives).⁷

These recent trends in education and labor force participation are counter to past social norms and mores. In the past, it has been the general belief that housework is relatively rewarding and non-alienating labor while jobs which are typically available to the ordinary non-professional women are intrinsically unrewarding or actively alienating.⁸

These generalized beliefs may not be supported by all elements of the population. While housework may be viewed as meaningful, it may not have the intrinsic rewards of a job outside the home as well as the extrinsic rewards of a salary. A job in the external labor force may provide a feeling of contribution to society as well as social contact with society. Also, as an unpaid housewife, the wife may experience a sense of powerlessness. She lacks the

economic pressure and may not be able to be a major influence on family decision making. While paid employment may not be gratifying, it may provide some relief from the full-time housewife's problems of meaninglessness, powerlessness, and social isolation.⁹

However, as a housewife emerges into the work force, she will be exposed to many new experiences and demands. She will be faced with more demands on her time and for her attention as well as new social interactions. This may cause the employed housewife to experience more stress and role conflict and role overload than she would normally experience as a housewife not employed outside the home. This brings about the question of whether the benefits received from working outside the home outweigh the various costs.

The existing research on this question provides no clear answer. This study will address this dilemma by comparing the non-employed housewives to housewives employed full-time in the outside workforce on perception of quality of life. Three moderating variables will also be examined. They are the level of education, age, and total family income. This study will try to determine which groups of housewives have a higher level of life satisfaction. Briefly, life satisfaction is defined as a "cognitive judgement of a current situation laid against external standards of comparison such as 'other people I know' or more private levels of aspirations."¹⁰

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

Previous studies have provided mixed results. Hall and Gordon (1973) looked at the career choices of married women and the effects on conflict, role behavior, and satisfaction. Their study used women college graduates as a sample. Their study showed four basic sources of conflict experienced by women. These sources of conflicts were home, nonhome, self, and time.

Home pressures were the single most important contributor and nonhome pressures were the next most important. The main differences between working wives and housewives were that working wives experienced the largest variety of pressures with time, home, nonhome, and self pressures contributing to experienced conflict while housewives only experienced conflict from pressures of home, nonhome, and self. The housewives also experienced a larger degree of self pressure than the working wives.

In looking at satisfaction and happiness relative to conflict, it was found that only the housewives showed a negative relationship between self pressures and satisfaction and happiness. A significant negative relationship between time pressures and satisfaction and happiness was found only for working wives. Hall and Gordon concluded

that career choices of the working wives are more difficult to implement successfully than are the choices of the home-oriented housewives. The wife who prefers to work may encounter increased role conflicts, time pressures, prejudice, and discrimination when seeking employment. These problems may offset some of the satisfaction received from an outside job.

Gordon and Hall (1974) found that there was a tendency for a woman who perceived herself as more supportive to deal with conflict by structurally redefining her roles and not attempting to meet all of the demands placed on her. Women are happier and more satisfied the more potent, supportive, and unemotional they feel.

Weaver and Holmes (1975) looked at the work satisfaction of housewives and working wives. Using data from the 1972 and 1973 General Social Surveys conducted by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago, they found only two significant differences between housewives and working wives. These differences indicated that for white females with annual incomes of less than \$6,000, housewives were more likely to be satisfied with their work than women who had full-time jobs.

Burke and Weir (1976) looked at the effects of wives' employment on both the husbands and the wives. Their sample was 189 husband-wife pairs. All husbands were employed full-time and were members of one of three professional associations. All of the subjects resided in Ontario, Canada.

Two twenty page questionnaires were mailed to each couple. The husband and wife were each to answer a questionnaire independently. The questionnaire gathered data on communication with spouse, mental and physical well-being, demographics, job pressures, life pressures, marital satisfaction, job satisfaction, and life satisfaction. These items were assessed on Likert-type scales.

The results of this study showed that the members of two-career families were significantly younger and were married for a shorter period of time. The husbands of the two-career families earned significantly less income than husbands in one-career families. Other differences, while not statistically significant, showed that members of two-career families were more highly educated and had fewer children.

Working wives were found to be more likely to value communicating with their husbands and actually communicated more with them than housewives. The working wives also showed a more positive standing on the mental and physical well-being measures and had greater satisfaction with marriage and with life in general. However, they still reported having as many life pressures as housewives.

Husbands of working wives showed greater job pressures and dissatisfaction with their jobs, marriage, and other life aspects than husbands of housewives. Husbands of working wives also indicated poorer psychological and physical health than husbands of housewives.

In comparing working wives to housewives, housewives indicated more life pressures and worries in total. Housewives worried about feeling stagnated, sickness in their families, and increasing difficulties in communicating with and showing affection for their husbands. The working wives were most concerned and worried about not having enough time for family and relaxation.

Working wives communicated with their husbands more than housewives, particularly about their feelings towards spouse, their personality, spouse's parents, their sex relations with their spouses, household chores, and pleasant feelings towards their spouses. In total, working wives communicated more with their husbands than housewives, but housewives did report communicating more with their husbands about their children and their own work and activities.

The working wives were happier with their marriages and were in greater agreement with their spouses on behavior and values. They were also more likely to discuss disagreements and settle by mutual compromise than by one person giving in.

The housewives reported to be in poorer mental and physical health. They also viewed themselves as the worrying type with generally lower spirits.

These results by Burke and Holmes must not be generalized outside the sample constraints. Although no demographics were given in the article, the subjects were

all from Ontario, Canada, with many from Toronto and its suburbs. All of the husbands were in one of three professional associations (professional engineers, industrial accountants, and chartered accountants) which indicates that the sample cannot be generalized past the professional upper class families. Also, no information was given about the type of jobs that the working wives held.

Nevill and Damico (1978) used a sample of 518 women in a university community to determine the influence of occupational status on role conflict in women. Nevill and Damico compared different occupational levels ranked from professional work to house work (based upon Duncan's scale for occupations and social status). They found that professional women and housewives tended to give similar responses which were generally lower in stress than women in other occupations. This was unexpected since there are expected conflicts between home and career. Nevill and Damico suggested that perhaps professionals and homemakers are balancing the various role demands better than women in other occupational roles who have neither the career, the status rewards of the professional woman, nor the personal fulfillment of the woman who chooses to spend full-time on homemaking.

Staines and Pleck (1978) looked at wives' employment status and marital adjustment. They used two data sets. The first was the 1971 Quality of Life Survey which was conducted by the Survey Research Center, Ann Arbor,

Michigan. The second data set was from the 1973 Fall Omnibus Survey. Their findings indicated that dual wives exhibit significantly poorer adjustment than housewives on global measures which concern marital choices and marital satisfaction.

Huser and Grant (1978) compared husbands and wives from dual-career and traditional-career families. Their sample was restricted because all of the participants had at least a bachelor's degree and they were all between the ages of 35 and 55 and at least one member of each husband-wife pair held a faculty position at the University of Utah. Also, the dual wives generally held a degree above a bachelor's degree and all of them held professional positions. Using a Personal Orientation Inventory, wives from dual-career families were found to differ significantly from the wives of the traditional-career families on the scales of inner-directedness. The dual-career wives scored higher. They were also more flexible in applying personal values.

The results found by Huser and Grant must not be generalized much beyond their sample due to its unique characteristics. Another problem with the results is that it is not known whether the differences between dual-career wives and traditional-career wives are attributable to the job in the labor market or to the higher level of education.

In looking at the effects of occupational attainments on the status perceptions of working wives, Philliber and Hiller (1979) found that there was an interaction between the class of the husband and the occupational prestige of the wife. The effects of the interaction were limited to women married to men with middle-class jobs. Of women with working-class jobs, there was no effect of occupational prestige on class identification regardless of the husbands' occupations. However, for women with middle-class jobs, the occupation of the husbands did make a difference. For women with working-class husbands, their own occupational characteristics did not effect their class identification while women married to middle-class husbands were.

Philliber and Hiller showed that the effects of occupational attainments on the status of working wives were limited to women married to men with middle-class jobs. The wives of husbands with working-class jobs did not change their perceptions of their social status on the basis of their job attainments while women married to middle-class husbands were. When the wife has a middle-class job, the probability of identifying with the middle-class increased significantly when the husband had a middle-class job instead of a working-class job. While Philliber and Hiller did not study the sources of class identification of housewives who are not in the labor

force, they suggest that the housewives may base identification upon the attainments of their husbands or on their own achievements in non-occupational areas such as community organizations.

Using a longitudinal study, Newberry, Weissman, and Myers (1979) looked at the differences in mental status and social adjustment of working wives and housewives. No differences between the two groups were found in mental status. However, there were significant differences in enjoyment and satisfaction derived from their work.

Working wives derived much more satisfaction from their outside jobs than they did from housework and also more satisfaction from their jobs than the housewives did from their work at home. A working wife's outside job was not found to interfere with the woman's ability to adequately perform in her other roles. Newberry, Weissman, and Myers concluded that the only major difference between working wives and housewives was in their adjustment to their work. The housewives were much more disinterested in and bored with their housework than the working wives were with their paid employment. The researchers suggest that observed differences in the assessments of the work role of working wives and housewives are not in the women, nor in their mental status, but in the roles themselves and the intrinsic satisfaction these roles provide.

Ferree (1976a) has studied housework and paid work as sources of satisfaction for working-class women. Ferree directed her research at the working-class women because most of the previous research had been directed at the "college educated elite." The working-class wife has been perceived as being driven to the workforce for the sole purpose of economic rewards. The idealized view of housework indicates that it would provide more chances for self-realization than going to work.

This view has been perpetuated with little empirical evidence to support it. Ferree questions the premises that the paid work available to the ordinary non-professional housewives is intrinsically unrewarding or actively alienating and that housework, on the other hand, is relatively rewarding and non-alienating labor.

Ferree points out from past research that even though many men work because of financial necessity and hold alienating, dead-end jobs, they still derive satisfaction and self-image from that job. The job is a major link between an individual and society. The job provides a sense of self accomplishment and social integration. The worker is making a contribution to society as a whole.

Ferree notes other problems faced by the working-class housewife. There is considerable doubt that housework provides the necessary non-financial satisfactions to

even poorly educated and unskilled women. As a housewife, there is no job to go to and no coworkers to socialize with. Increasing geographic mobility along with more and more women entering the workforce has weakened the neighborhood social network and the wives thus desire to enter the job market to join in social interaction.

The housewife also faces the problem of economic powerlessness. Without a paycheck, the housewife may not have equal input on family financial decisions. This also causes the housewife to be plagued by psychological dependence.

To investigate these issues, Ferree conducted a study of women's attitudes and employment experience in 1974. This study was conducted in a working-class community in eastern Massachusetts. The median family income was under \$10,000 and 55 per cent of the husbands were manual laborers.

The sample was taken from school records. All of the women in the sample had a child in the first or second grade and no children in pre-school. All women were married and living with their husbands. The structured interview took place in the women's homes and lasted approximately 90 minutes. All of the interviewers were female. The sample size was relatively small, only 135 women. Only three women in the sample had college degrees. While 57 per cent of the women were high school graduates, 36 per cent had less formal education. About half of the

sample held jobs at the time of the study. Generally these jobs were typically viewed as not intrinsically satisfying or challenging. Ferree's sample can be summarized as typical working-class. They were lower-educated, low income, and the wives who worked held low-status jobs such as clerical, factory, sales, and service.

In comparing the relative rewards of housework and paid work, Ferree's sample showed that women who work for pay are generally more satisfied than the wives who are full-time housewives. The full-time housewives were more dissatisfied with the way they were spending their lives and want their daughters to be "mostly different" from themselves. Ferree found no difference in marital satisfaction between the two groups of wives. The housewife also viewed herself as worse off than the working women while the working wife saw herself to be as well off or better than full-time housewives.

While work outside the home does more to increase the satisfaction of the high school graduates, it also has positive effects on the less educated. The less educated housewife, while happier at home than the high school graduate housewife, is still happier in the workforce. From this, Ferree says that most working women derive satisfaction and pleasures from the non-financial rewards of the job which out-weigh the pleasures of the housewives lives.

From her study, Ferree summarizes several problems of housework as an occupation. Housework suffers from a lack of performance standards and recognition as work. A majority of the full-time housewives in her sample expressed feelings of inadequacy in their performance of housework. While housework does not give the wife a feeling of competence and self esteem, the outside job provides a working wife with clear standards of performance. The full-time housewife has a lack of social interaction which plays a major role in her greater dissatisfaction.

While Ferree's study provides much insight, some major criticisms must be made. It must be remembered that she only looked at working-class wives in one city, had a small sample size, and gave no indication whether or not the differences between the two groups of wives were statistically significant. In fact, some of her differences did not appear to be too significant. Also, inter-rater reliability was not established.

Wright (1978) used six national surveys to try to overcome problems in previous studies such as small sample size and restricted samples. The earliest and largest survey he used was the "Quality of American Life" survey conducted at the University of Michigan in 1971. Wright also used some information from five General Social Surveys conducted between 1972 and 1976 by the National Opinion Research Center. His analysis was restricted to white married women who were in the

labor force (full-time or part-time) or were housewives at the time of the survey.

Wright distinguished between working-class and middle-class in his study so comparisons could be made with Ferree's study. Wright could not find evidence to support Ferree's 1976 findings for working women. The strongest support that Wright found was that there was a 12.8 per cent point difference by labor force status in the proportion who are "very happy." However, this was not statistically significant so Wright concluded that there are no statistically significant differences in the reported happiness of working wives and housewives.

Wright also found little outright dislike for housework expressed by any of the women in the study regardless of work status. About half of all women expressed an "unqualified liking" for housework. While the working women in the middle-class were a little less enthusiastic about housework than middle-class housewives, the difference was not significant. There was no difference in this variable among the working-class.

From this, Wright derives that for a large amount of housewives, being a full-time housewife is preferred to outside work and the housework provides them with a real source of satisfaction. Even among working wives there was not much to indicate housework as a source of dissatisfaction.

Wright only found three significant differences and these were only at the 0.10 level. For middle-class women, housewives found their lives substantially easier. Ferree did not recognize this factor. Consistent with Ferree, Wright found that working-class housewives were somewhat less friendly than the working women. However, Wright points out that all answers were concentrated on the positive end of the scale so that while housewives are a little less content, they did not characterize themselves as "lonely" or "tied-down" in the absolute sense. Finally, middle-class women regardless of job status felt freer than the working-class wives but there was no significant difference between housewives and working wives within a class.

Wright concludes that even though the working wife has several sources of satisfaction available to her through work, housewives prove consistently to be just as satisfied. As a whole, housewives are just as happy as women who work and the image of

. . . confusion, isolation, loneliness, and alienation among American housewives is just as mythical as the opposite number it is meant to replace. Neither of these myths is especially well-suited to a full understanding of the situation of women in contemporary American society (p. 312).

After reviewing these research studies, arguments for the quality of life satisfaction of both housewives and working wives have been made. While most of these

articles suggest that the working wife is happier and feels more satisfied with her life and that housewives feel social isolation, boredom, poor health, and more stress; other studies have shown that the housewives are better off.

Chitaravimol (1979) looked at the differences in life satisfaction between full-time housewives and working wives in the state of Oklahoma. Using data from the Statewide Survey of Oklahoma 1976, Chitaravimol compared working wives and housewives with questions measuring various feelings about present life and satisfaction with different aspects of life.

Chitaravimol found few significant differences between the two groups of wives. When the data was segmented demographically, Chitaravimol found that the higher educated dual wives felt their lives to be more interesting, friendly, full, rewarding, and bringing out the best in them than the higher educated housewives. The dual wives in this same education category also felt more satisfied with life in the United States, value of an education, job, and family life than the highly educated housewives. Younger dual wives felt that life was more interesting and freer than the housewives. His conclusions were that working wives who were higher educated, had a higher income, and under 30 years of age were more satisfied with their present life.

Because of the mixed findings of the various studies, no substantial conclusions can be made. Many of the studies were plagued by small and restrictive sample sizes which limit their usefulness. In light of these conflicting and inconsistent results, more research is developed here to help find a better answer to the questionable differences in the quality of life satisfaction between working wives and homemakers. The methodology and population sample used in this study are similar to the Chitaravimol study. However, this study uses 1979 data thus updating previous research.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH DESIGN

The design of this study has been influenced by past studies in the area. The preceding review of past research indicated that demographic variables may be moderating factors on the quality of life perceived. Therefore, besides looking at the sample of housewives and dual wives as a whole, each group will be subdivided by the variables age, total family income, and highest level of formal education completed.

Hypotheses

Although past studies have been contradictory and inconclusive, there are some specific results expected. This study has been designed to determine the effects of work on married women. These effects are expected to be moderated by the variables age, income, and education. The expected findings are that employed wives in the high income bracket are more satisfied than full-time housewives in the high income bracket; the high educated employed wives are more satisfied than the high educated full-time housewives who feel they are not doing their potential; and finally expected is that younger employed

wives will be more satisfied than younger full-time housewives.

Based on these expectations, the following null hypotheses have been developed:

1. The dual wives in the high income bracket are as equally satisfied as the housewives in the high income bracket.
2. The high educated dual wives are as equally satisfied as the high educated housewives.
3. The younger dual wives are as equally satisfied as the younger housewives.

If the null hypotheses are rejected, they will lend support to the alternative hypotheses by virtue of 'proof by contradiction' and give a measure of confidence of the results (Mendenhall and Reinmuth, 1978, p. 178).

Questionnaire and Sampling

This study is based on the original study that was performed in 1979 in the state of Oklahoma. The 1979 State of Oklahoma Survey was conducted by the Center for Economic and Management Research at the University of Oklahoma to gather socioeconomic data on residential households in the state. The Survey also gathered attitudinal information from the Oklahoma residents. The 1979 State of Oklahoma Survey included over 2,700 in-depth personal interviews. Each interview required over one hour to complete.

The questions used in the questionnaire were provided by state agency heads, researchers, and three previous

studies: the Statewide Survey of Oklahoma 1976 which was conducted by the Center for Economic and Management Research at the University of Oklahoma, the National Study on the Quality of Life in America which was conducted by the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan in 1978, and the questions scheduled for use in the 1980 Census.

The sample for the 1979 State of Oklahoma Survey was obtained by a stratified random sampling technique so that each geographic area in Oklahoma was represented in the sample in proportion to its share of the state's population. After specific households were randomly selected in each geographic area, a family member over 18 years of age within each household was randomly selected to be interviewed.

After the Survey was completed and the data compiled, it was made available on computer processible magnetic tape. This research report uses this tape as its data base. The steps involved in obtaining the specific data necessary for analysis included calling-up the tape, limiting the data to working wives and housewives, and comparing their answers to the attitudinal questions as related to education, income, and age by use of a packaged program.

Education was classified into four categories - less than high school, high school graduate or equivalent only, some college, and college degree(s). Income was

classified into three categories - less than \$10,000, \$10,000 to \$25,999, and \$26,000 and above. Finally, age was classified into three categories - 18 to 30 years of age, 31 to 45 years of age, and 46 years of age and above.

Each of these factors and their sub-classifications were related to the perceived life satisfaction and perceived feelings about various aspects such as neighborhood, city, life in the United States, education, health, marriage, and so on. Responses to the questions were used to test the hypotheses within each demographic category to determine whether or not either housewives or dual wives are more satisfied than the other group.

Statistical Analysis

In testing these hypotheses, the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) computer program was used. A computer program was developed and run to analyze the data provided by the 1979 State of Oklahoma Survey computer magnetic tape. A T-Test with a significance level of 0.050 was used to analyze the differences between the responses of housewives and dual wives.

If life satisfaction of employed wives equals X and the life satisfaction of housewives equals X_1 , then the null hypothesis tested is:

$$H_0: X = X_1$$

$$H_A: X \neq X_1$$

If the null hypothesis is rejected, then the alternative hypothesis can be concluded with a measure of confidence of the results.

CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS

The results from testing the variables give a representative view of the differences in the life satisfaction of Oklahoma wives based on their occupation status of dual wives or housewives. Through the use of the SPSS program, means, standard deviations, and T-Tests were computed for each variable and demographic classification to determine if significant differences exist.

Feelings About Present Life

A Likert-type seven point scale was used to measure the data for variables which deal with the perceived feelings about present life. In the following analysis, the first adjective was at the beginning of the scale with a point value of one and the second adjective was at the end of the scale with a point value of seven. All analyses were based on a significance level of 0.050.

Boring to Interesting: Table I shows that while the difference between housewives and dual wives is significant for the total sample, the real significance comes from the age group 31 to 45. In this group, dual

wives feel that their lives are more interesting.

Enjoyable to Miserable: Table II shows that there are no significant differences between housewives and dual wives for this variable.

Easy to Hard: Table III shows that overall, dual wives see their lives as harder. Closer analysis shows that the difference is concentrated in dual wives with a college degree and those in the 31 to 45 age group.

Useless to Worthwhile: Table IV shows that for the total sample difference, dual wives feel more worthwhile. Broken down by demographics, the only significance is for those with less than a high school education. The dual wives feel more worthwhile.

Friendly to Lonely: Table V shows that there are no significant differences based on this variable.

Full to Empty: Table VI shows that dual wives with some college feel that their lives are more full.

Discouraging to Hopeful: Table VII shows that for the whole sample, dual wives feel that their lives are more hopeful. The difference is concentrated in high school, high income, and 31 to 45 years old dual wives.

Tied Down to Free: Table VIII shows no significant differences.

Disappointing to Rewarding: Table IX shows no significant differences.

Brings out The Best In Me to Doesn't Give Me Much Chance: Table X shows dual wives 18 to 30 with some college are more positive.

TABLE I

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
FEELING ABOUT PRESENT LIFE:
BORING TO INTERESTING

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	5.80(30)	5.35(168)	1.39	0.165
High school	5.78(98)	5.58(201)	1.16	0.245
Some college	5.74(57)	5.64(138)	0.42	0.676
College degree(s)	6.11(44)	6.06(78)	0.22	0.827
Low income	5.82(28)	5.38(131)	1.36	0.175
Middle income	5.71(111)	5.52(232)	1.20	0.229
Upper income	5.96(57)	5.76(101)	0.94	0.347
Ages- 18 to 30	5.62(68)	5.32(174)	1.51	0.133
Ages- 31 to 45	5.95(94)	5.50(149)	2.41	0.017
Ages- 46 and above	5.89(72)	5.87(271)	0.10	0.923
Total sample	5.83(234)	5.60(599)	2.10	0.036

TABLE II

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
FEELING ABOUT PRESENT LIFE:
ENJOYABLE TO MISERABLE

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	2.33(30)	2.49(168)	-0.47	0.639
High school	2.00(98)	2.25(201)	-1.49	0.138
Some college	2.16(57)	2.12(138)	0.14	0.886
College degree(s)	2.34(44)	1.87(78)	1.84	0.069
Low income	2.54(28)	2.45(131)	0.25	0.802
Middle income	2.14(111)	2.35(232)	-1.29	0.196
Upper income	2.12(57)	2.01(101)	0.45	0.654
Ages- 18 to 30	2.37(68)	2.39(174)	-0.08	0.937
Ages- 31 to 45	2.21(94)	2.34(149)	-0.65	0.518
Ages- 46 and above	1.82(72)	2.09(271)	-1.42	0.156
Total sample	2.14(234)	2.24(599)	-0.91	0.361

TABLE III
 MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
 FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
 FEELING ABOUT PRESENT LIFE:
 EASY TO HARD

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	3.70(30)	3.80(168)	-0.28	0.779
High school	3.61(98)	3.21(201)	1.91	0.057
Some college	3.58(57)	3.17(138)	1.47	0.143
College degree(s)	3.80(44)	2.87(78)	3.56	0.001
Low income	4.07(28)	3.69(131)	0.94	0.347
Middle income	3.58(111)	3.48(232)	0.53	0.598
Upper income	3.47(57)	3.15(101)	1.18	0.238
Ages- 18 to 30	3.76(68)	3.61(174)	0.65	0.516
Ages- 31 to 45	3.77(94)	3.23(149)	2.43	0.016
Ages- 46 and above	3.38(72)	3.20(271)	0.74	0.457
Total sample	3.65(234)	3.33(599)	2.41	0.016

TABLE IV
 MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
 FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
 FEELING ABOUT PRESENT LIFE:
 USELESS TO WORTHWHILE

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	6.37(30)	5.61(168)	2.35	0.020
High school	6.14(98)	6.04(201)	0.66	0.513
Some college	6.21(57)	6.03(138)	0.94	0.346
College degree(s)	6.32(44)	6.32(78)	-0.01	0.989
Low income	6.11(28)	5.68(131)	1.29	0.201
Middle income	6.13(111)	6.03(232)	0.66	0.507
Upper income	6.30(57)	6.12(101)	0.89	0.374
Ages- 18 to 30	6.09(68)	5.86(174)	1.23	0.219
Ages- 31 to 45	6.33(94)	6.11(149)	1.49	0.138
Ages- 46 and above	6.21(72)	5.94(271)	1.41	0.159
Total sample	6.22(234)	5.95(599)	2.65	0.008

TABLE V

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
FEELING ABOUT PRESENT LIFE:
FRIENDLY TO LONELY

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	2.17(30)	2.33(168)	-0.50	0.615
High school	2.09(98)	2.15(201)	-0.34	0.732
Some college	2.26(57)	2.32(138)	-0.21	0.836
College degree(s)	2.30(44)	2.13(78)	0.62	0.537
Low income	2.21(28)	2.28(131)	-0.21	0.833
Middle income	2.34(111)	2.40(232)	-0.30	0.763
Upper income	2.21(57)	2.35(101)	-0.45	0.651
Ages- 18 to 30	2.41(68)	2.54(174)	-0.56	0.577
Ages- 31 to 45	2.16(94)	2.42(149)	-1.17	0.243
Ages- 46 and above	1.99(72)	1.99(271)	-0.01	0.988
Total sample	2.18(234)	2.26(599)	-0.63	0.531

TABLE VI
 MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
 FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
 FEELING ABOUT PRESENT LIFE:
 FULL TO EMPTY

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	2.23(30)	2.41(168)	-0.54	0.592
High school	2.03(98)	2.14(200)	-0.62	0.535
Some college	1.74(57)	2.28(138)	-2.24	0.026
College degree(s)	2.16(44)	1.74(76)	1.70	0.092
Low income	2.04(28)	2.45(131)	-1.23	0.219
Middle income	2.22(111)	2.22(230)	-0.01	0.995
Upper income	1.82(57)	2.18(101)	-1.42	0.159
Ages- 18 to 30	1.99(68)	2.37(173)	-1.89	0.060
Ages- 31 to 45	2.18(94)	2.17(149)	0.06	0.950
Ages- 46 and above	1.85(72)	2.12(269)	-1.37	0.172
Total sample	2.02(234)	2.20(596)	-1.52	0.128

TABLE VII

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
FEELING ABOUT PRESENT LIFE:
DISCOURAGING TO HOPEFUL

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	6.03(30)	5.48(168)	1.67	0.097
High school	6.13(98)	5.80(201)	1.98	0.049
Some college	6.25(57)	5.92(138)	1.63	0.104
College degree(s)	6.02(44)	6.19(78)	-0.84	0.402
Low income	5.96(28)	5.60(131)	1.09	0.277
Middle income	6.03(111)	5.76(232)	1.76	0.079
Upper income	6.37(57)	5.94(101)	2.08	0.039
Ages- 18 to 30	6.13(68)	5.78(174)	1.74	0.082
Ages- 31 to 45	6.17(94)	5.68(149)	2.79	0.006
Ages- 46 and above	6.08(72)	5.88(271)	1.09	0.278
Total sample	6.13(234)	5.79(599)	3.18	0.002

TABLE VIII

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
FEELING ABOUT PRESENT LIFE:
TIED DOWN TO FREE

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	4.67(30)	4.80(168)	-0.34	0.734
High school	5.11(98)	4.95(201)	0.75	0.456
Some college	4.75(57)	4.83(138)	-0.26	0.792
College degree(s)	4.80(44)	4.88(78)	-0.27	0.788
Low income	5.04(28)	4.61(131)	1.04	0.298
Middle income	4.97(111)	4.71(232)	1.35	0.178
Upper income	4.93(57)	4.96(101)	-0.11	0.916
Ages- 18 to 30	4.53(68)	4.12(174)	1.71	0.088
Ages- 31 to 45	5.04(94)	4.68(149)	1.59	0.114
Ages- 46 and above	5.01(72)	5.44(271)	-1.70	0.090
Total sample	4.88(234)	4.86(599)	0.14	0.889

TABLE IX

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
FEELING ABOUT PRESENT LIFE:
DISAPPOINTING TO REWARDING

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	5.60(30)	5.62(168)	-0.06	0.952
High school	6.00(98)	5.81(201)	1.15	0.252
Some college	6.09(57)	5.82(138)	1.26	0.210
College degree(s)	6.02(44)	6.19(78)	-0.82	0.415
Low income	5.75(28)	5.50(131)	0.77	0.445
Middle income	5.94(111)	5.84(232)	0.61	0.545
Upper income	6.07(57)	5.98(101)	0.43	0.666
Ages- 18 to 30	5.69(68)	5.63(174)	0.29	0.771
Ages- 31 to 45	6.02(94)	5.67(149)	1.89	0.061
Ages- 46 and above	6.18(72)	6.05(271)	0.78	0.434
Total sample	5.97(234)	5.82(599)	1.41	0.158

TABLE X

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
 FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
 FEELING ABOUT PRESENT LIFE:
 BRINGS OUT THE BEST IN ME TO
 DOESN'T GIVE ME MUCH CHANCE

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	3.27(30)	2.91(168)	0.99	0.326
High school	2.47(98)	2.70(201)	-1.24	0.215
Some college	2.21(57)	2.99(138)	-3.14	0.002
College degree(s)	2.75(44)	2.37(78)	1.40	0.164
Low income	2.71(28)	2.88(131)	-0.46	0.650
Middle income	2.67(111)	2.90(232)	-1.29	0.198
Upper income	2.28(57)	2.66(101)	-1.52	0.131
Ages- 18 to 30	2.56(68)	3.03(174)	-2.16	0.032
Ages- 31 to 45	2.64(94)	2.98(149)	-1.63	0.105
Ages- 46 and above	2.51(72)	2.50(271)	0.07	0.943
Total sample	2.58(234)	2.78(599)	-1.64	0.101

General Life Satisfaction

General life satisfaction was measured by the judgment rating between 0 and 100 for variables which looked at several areas in an individual's life. A rating of zero indicates that the item in their life was terrible or as bad as could possibly be imagined. A rating of 100 indicated that the item in their life was perfect or as good as could possibly be imagined.

Satisfaction with Neighborhood: Table XI shows that the only significant difference is that middle income housewives are more satisfied.

Satisfaction with City or Place You Live: Table XII shows no significant differences.

Satisfaction with House or Apartment: Table XIII shows no significant differences.

Satisfaction with Life in the United States: Table XIV shows that housewives with college degrees and housewives 18 to 30 years of age are more satisfied.

Satisfaction with Life in Oklahoma: Table XV shows no significant differences.

Satisfaction with Your Education: Table XVI shows that dual wives 46 and above were more satisfied than the housewives in this age group.

TABLE XI
 MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
 FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
 SATISFACTION WITH:
 NEIGHBORHOOD

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	68.03(30)	75.19(166)	-1.39	0.166
High school	74.99(97)	77.46(201)	-0.95	0.343
Some college	72.93(56)	75.67(138)	-0.78	0.437
College degree(s)	78.20(44)	80.46(78)	-0.75	0.457
Low income	68.19(27)	71.74(130)	-0.65	0.520
Middle income	71.27(111)	76.84(232)	-2.26	0.025
Upper income	80.34(56)	78.69(101)	0.51	0.614
Ages- 18 to 30	69.22(67)	71.29(174)	-0.62	0.534
Ages- 31 to 45	75.48(94)	76.74(148)	-0.43	0.669
Ages- 46 and above	77.99(71)	80.62(270)	-0.97	0.331
Total sample	74.44(232)	77.00(597)	-1.50	0.134

TABLE XII

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
SATISFACTION WITH:
CITY OR PLACE YOU LIVE

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	69.00(30)	73.85(166)	-0.99	0.321
High school	77.30(98)	76.32(200)	0.39	0.698
Some college	73.49(57)	76.33(138)	-0.95	0.343
College degree(s)	77.20(44)	80.22(78)	-1.04	0.302
Low income	74.29(28)	72.49(130)	0.35	0.725
Middle income	74.05(111)	76.23(232)	-0.97	0.332
Upper income	77.95(57)	75.99(100)	0.62	0.534
Ages- 18 to 30	69.09(68)	72.33(174)	-1.05	0.294
Ages- 31 to 45	76.05(94)	76.21(148)	-0.06	0.956
Ages- 46 and above	79.54(72)	79.02(269)	0.21	0.837
Total sample	75.10(234)	76.34(596)	-0.78	0.437

TABLE XIII

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
SATISFACTION WITH:
HOUSE OR APARTMENT

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	70.73(30)	78.95(166)	-1.72	0.087
High school	78.39(98)	79.00(201)	-0.23	0.816
Some college	75.56(57)	79.82(138)	-1.29	0.200
College degree(s)	84.02(44)	85.01(78)	-0.38	0.704
Low income	71.57(28)	74.23(130)	-0.48	0.631
Middle income	76.28(111)	79.21(232)	-1.26	0.209
Upper income	80.25(57)	83.37(101)	-1.00	0.320
Ages- 18 to 30	75.28(68)	73.79(174)	0.45	0.654
Ages- 31 to 45	76.13(94)	80.94(148)	-1.69	0.092
Ages- 46 and above	82.38(72)	83.63(270)	-0.52	0.606
Total sample	77.80(234)	80.13(597)	-1.43	0.152

TABLE XIV
 MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
 FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
 SATISFACTION WITH:
 LIFE IN USA

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	84.23(30)	86.31(165)	-0.51	0.610
High school	86.18(97)	85.08(201)	0.48	0.632
Some college	81.70(57)	84.25(138)	-0.97	0.333
College degree(s)	81.14(44)	86.53(78)	-2.17	0.032
Low income	84.63(27)	82.23(129)	0.50	0.621
Middle income	83.18(111)	84.91(232)	-0.85	0.395
Upper income	83.98(57)	85.10(101)	-0.44	0.660
Ages- 18 to 30	74.84(68)	81.10(174)	-2.11	0.036
Ages- 31 to 45	86.05(94)	84.77(148)	0.57	0.570
Ages- 46 and above	87.79(71)	88.66(269)	-0.40	0.687
Total sample	83.31(233)	85.47(596)	-1.53	0.126

TABLE XV

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
SATISFACTION WITH:
LIFE IN OKLAHOMA

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	81.97(30)	85.07(166)	-0.74	0.458
High school	84.40(98)	83.36(201)	0.42	0.675
Some college	80.09(57)	82.57(138)	-0.90	0.369
College degree(s)	79.91(44)	84.36(78)	-1.90	0.060
Low income	81.29(28)	81.69(130)	-0.09	0.932
Middle income	79.44(111)	83.36(232)	-1.83	0.069
Upper income	84.47(57)	82.73(101)	0.64	0.523
Ages- 18 to 30	75.25(68)	78.43(174)	-1.02	0.310
Ages- 31 to 45	82.85(94)	83.03(148)	-0.07	0.942
Ages- 46 and above	86.72(72)	88.19(270)	-0.71	0.481
Total sample	81.83(234)	83.99(597)	-1.49	0.137

TABLE XVI
 MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
 FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
 SATISFACTION WITH:
 YOUR EDUCATION

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	48.13(30)	57.65(166)	-1.88	0.062
High school	69.65(98)	72.38(201)	-1.06	0.290
Some college	70.30(57)	67.76(138)	0.72	0.470
College degree(s)	84.57(44)	87.59(78)	-1.43	0.156
Low income	64.04(28)	63.82(130)	0.04	0.970
Middle income	70.99(111)	70.06(232)	0.37	0.713
Upper income	73.70(57)	71.84(101)	0.54	0.591
Ages- 18 to 30	66.79(68)	67.10(174)	-0.09	0.932
Ages- 31 to 45	66.56(94)	72.38(148)	-1.87	0.062
Ages- 46 and above	76.64(72)	68.75(270)	2.69	0.008
Total sample	69.73(234)	69.14(597)	0.32	0.746

Satisfaction with Your Job as a Housewife: Table shows several significant differences. Overall, housewives were more satisfied. When looked at by demographics, this relationship held true for those with college degrees, in the middle income bracket, and between the ages 18 and 30.

Satisfaction with Ways You Spend Your Spare Time: Table XVIII shows that housewives are more satisfied, particularly those with less than a high school education and over 45 years of age.

Satisfaction with Health: Table XIX shows that for the total sample, dual wives were more satisfied. When looked at by demographics, this only held true for those who were over 45 years of age.

Satisfaction with Health Care Received: Table XX shows no significant differences.

Satisfaction with Standard of Living: Table XXI shows that overall, housewives were more satisfied. When analyzed by demographics, this relationship held true for those with a high school education and those in the high income group.

Satisfaction with Savings and Investments: Table XXII shows that housewives with a high school education were more satisfied than the dual wives with a high school education.

Satisfaction with Friendships: Table XXIII shows no significant differences.

TABLE XVII

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
SATISFACTION WITH:
JOB AS A HOUSEWIFE

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	78.80(30)	81.49(165)	-0.58	0.560
High school	76.73(96)	81.51(200)	-1.86	0.064
Some college	76.18(55)	79.07(137)	-0.89	0.372
College degree(s)	76.14(43)	85.04(77)	-2.54	0.012
Low income	78.18(28)	80.10(130)	-0.39	0.697
Middle income	75.94(108)	81.52(231)	-2.46	0.014
Upper income	77.29(56)	79.44(100)	-0.61	0.540
Ages- 18 to 30	72.15(67)	79.50(174)	-2.39	0.018
Ages- 31 to 45	76.95(92)	80.14(146)	-1.15	0.252
Ages- 46 and above	80.13(70)	83.32(268)	-1.14	0.255
Total sample	76.52(229)	81.39(593)	-2.98	0.003

TABLE XVIII

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
SATISFACTION WITH:
WAYS YOU SPEND YOUR SPARE TIME

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	64.13(30)	76.13(165)	-2.32	0.022
High school	73.15(98)	75.38(200)	-0.79	0.431
Some college	74.98(57)	74.20(137)	0.23	0.819
College degree(s)	74.64(44)	80.71(78)	-1.69	0.093
Low income	67.07(28)	72.90(130)	-1.05	0.296
Middle income	73.46(111)	76.60(230)	-1.26	0.209
Upper income	75.18(57)	76.08(101)	-0.26	0.798
Ages- 18 to 30	73.85(68)	72.20(174)	0.50	0.621
Ages- 31 to 45	71.49(94)	75.49(148)	-1.34	0.181
Ages- 46 and above	72.82(72)	79.08(267)	-2.07	0.039
Total sample	72.59(234)	76.14(594)	-2.01	0.045

TABLE XIX

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
SATISFACTION WITH:
HEALTH

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	77.93(30)	70.09(165)	1.46	0.146
High school	82.60(98)	78.81(200)	1.44	0.151
Some college	80.18(57)	79.82(137)	0.11	0.914
College degree(s)	82.02(44)	83.03(78)	-0.34	0.733
Low income	81.64(28)	70.97(130)	1.93	0.055
Middle income	80.18(111)	79.08(230)	0.48	0.631
Upper income	82.56(57)	79.55(101)	0.85	0.395
Ages- 18 to 30	82.82(68)	81.92(174)	0.30	0.764
Ages- 31 to 45	79.85(94)	78.94(147)	0.31	0.759
Ages- 46 and above	82.35(72)	72.88(268)	3.13	0.002
Total sample	81.48(234)	77.09(594)	2.54	0.011

TABLE XX

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
SATISFACTION WITH:
HEALTH CARE RECEIVED

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	76.50(30)	82.04(164)	-1.14	0.254
High school	83.66(98)	85.25(201)	-0.68	0.499
Some college	86.71(55)	84.03(137)	0.92	0.357
College degree(s)	85.30(44)	86.55(78)	-0.48	0.634
Low income	77.61(28)	79.06(130)	-0.27	0.785
Middle income	83.70(110)	84.55(231)	-0.43	0.670
Upper income	85.30(57)	86.88(101)	-0.55	0.585
Ages- 18 to 30	85.00(67)	82.88(174)	0.76	0.449
Ages- 31 to 45	81.00(94)	83.91(147)	-1.05	0.296
Ages- 46 and above	86.94(71)	85.21(268)	0.68	0.496
Total sample	83.97(232)	84.24(594)	-0.17	0.862

TABLE XXI

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
SATISFACTION WITH:
STANDARD OF LIVING

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	69.03(30)	74.49(166)	-1.09	0.277
High school	76.47(98)	81.70(201)	-2.15	0.032
Some college	81.04(57)	83.49(138)	-0.96	0.337
College degree(s)	84.52(44)	88.21(78)	-1.76	0.081
Low income	67.79(28)	74.58(130)	-1.27	0.205
Middle income	78.18(111)	79.48(232)	-0.60	0.548
Upper income	85.07(57)	89.10(101)	-2.12	0.036
Ages- 18 to 30	76.19(68)	76.83(174)	-0.21	0.832
Ages- 31 to 45	77.13(94)	80.43(148)	-1.20	0.232
Ages- 46 and above	81.04(72)	84.27(270)	-1.36	0.175
Total sample	78.06(234)	81.20(597)	-2.05	0.041

TABLE XXII

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
 FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
 SATISFACTION WITH:
 SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	47.27(30)	50.23(162)	-0.43	0.671
High school	54.76(97)	62.34(198)	-2.07	0.039
Some college	61.35(57)	62.76(135)	-0.30	0.765
College degree(s)	65.59(44)	72.03(78)	-1.24	0.216
Low income	51.78(27)	48.88(128)	0.39	0.695
Middle income	53.06(111)	57.90(229)	-1.44	0.151
Upper income	67.96(57)	74.94(100)	-1.70	0.092
Ages- 18 to 30	54.09(68)	53.70(173)	0.09	0.928
Ages- 31 to 45	55.90(94)	57.58(147)	-0.41	0.685
Ages- 46 and above	63.79(71)	66.68(263)	-0.69	0.490
Total sample	57.78(233)	60.64(587)	-1.18	0.238

TABLE XXIII

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
SATISFACTION WITH:
FRIENDSHIPS

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	80.90(30)	80.67(166)	-0.04	0.966
High school	82.94(98)	84.02(200)	-0.46	0.643
Some college	81.81(57)	83.83(138)	-0.77	0.439
College degree(s)	85.50(44)	89.06(78)	-1.70	0.092
Low income	79.21(28)	78.48(130)	0.14	0.890
Middle income	81.94(111)	84.46(232)	-1.21	0.228
Upper income	83.46(57)	86.42(100)	-1.01	0.314
Ages- 18 to 30	79.59(68)	80.68(174)	-0.35	0.726
Ages- 31 to 45	83.26(94)	83.52(148)	-0.10	0.919
Ages- 46 and above	85.28(72)	86.04(269)	-0.31	0.755
Total sample	82.81(234)	83.80(596)	-0.64	0.520

Satisfaction with Family Life: Table XXIV shows no significant differences.

Satisfaction with Marriage: Table XXV shows no significant differences.

Satisfaction with Life as a Whole: Table XXVI shows that the only significant difference was that dual wives with some college were more satisfied.

Demographic Variables

The following breakdown analyses by demographic variables show significant differences within each classification. For the analyses, less than high school equals one, high school equals two, some college equals three, college degree(s) equals four, low income equals one, middle income equals two, upper income equals three, ages 18 to 30 equal one, ages 31 to 45 equal two, and ages 46 and above equal three.

Education: Table 27 shows that for those with less than a high school education, housewives were significantly older than dual wives. For those with college degrees, total family income was significantly more when the wife worked.

Income: Table 28 shows that in the lower and upper brackets, dual wives had a significantly higher level of education.

TABLE XXIV
 MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
 FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
 SATISFACTION WITH:
 FAMILY LIFE

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	86.37(30)	86.52(166)	-0.04	0.970
High school	88.32(98)	89.27(201)	-0.50	0.616
Some college	91.81(57)	88.56(138)	1.55	0.123
College degree(s)	89.32(44)	92.86(78)	-1.93	0.056
Low income	84.25(28)	84.45(130)	-0.04	0.965
Middle income	89.32(111)	89.38(232)	-0.03	0.975
Upper income	90.21(57)	90.27(101)	-0.03	0.976
Ages- 18 to 30	86.94(68)	87.95(174)	-0.43	0.671
Ages- 31 to 45	88.26(94)	87.93(148)	0.15	0.881
Ages- 46 and above	91.28(72)	90.02(270)	0.64	0.522
Total sample	88.80(234)	88.93(597)	-0.10	0.918

TABLE XXV

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
SATISFACTION WITH:
MARRIAGE

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	85.67(30)	88.11(166)	-0.59	0.556
High school	90.12(97)	91.40(201)	-0.70	0.486
Some college	91.47(57)	89.85(138)	0.68	0.499
College degree(s)	92.14(44)	93.73(78)	-0.74	0.459
Low income	88.96(27)	88.68(130)	0.30	0.761
Middle income	89.70(111)	90.83(232)	-0.65	0.516
Upper income	91.42(57)	92.02(101)	-0.27	0.784
Ages- 18 to 30	89.03(68)	89.10(174)	-0.03	0.978
Ages- 31 to 45	89.96(94)	88.94(148)	0.44	0.661
Ages- 46 and above	91.27(71)	92.34(270)	-0.56	0.578
Total sample	90.09(233)	90.56(597)	-0.38	0.704

TABLE XXVI

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
SATISFACTION WITH:
LIFE AS A WHOLE

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school	83.67(30)	85.16(166)	-0.40	0.691
High school	89.62(97)	88.95(201)	0.39	0.697
Some college	92.21(57)	87.96(137)	2.42	0.017
College degree(s)	89.95(44)	92.01(78)	-1.39	0.167
Low income	89.41(27)	84.73(130)	1.28	0.204
Middle income	89.84(111)	88.40(232)	0.91	0.363
Upper income	90.25(57)	88.99(101)	0.71	0.479
Ages- 18 to 30	87.88(68)	87.20(174)	0.35	0.726
Ages- 31 to 45	89.60(94)	86.62(148)	1.47	0.143
Ages- 46 and above	91.32(71)	89.74(269)	0.88	0.380
Total sample	89.62(233)	88.17(596)	1.34	0.182

TABLE XXVII

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
INCOME AND AGES BY EDUCATION

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Less than high school:				
Income	1.20(30)	1.18(168)	0.13	0.900
Ages	2.03(30)	2.42(168)	-2.38	0.018
High school:				
Income	1.77(98)	1.59(201)	1.51	0.133
Ages	2.11(98)	2.03(201)	0.81	0.418
Some college:				
Income	1.98(57)	1.72(138)	1.51	0.131
Ages	1.89(57)	2.02(138)	-0.91	0.362
College degree(s):				
Income	2.11(44)	1.60(78)	2.28	0.024
Ages	1.93(44)	2.04(78)	-0.72	0.472

TABLE XXVIII

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
EDUCATION AND AGES BY INCOME

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Under \$10,000:				
Education	2.11(28)	1.54(131)	3.20	0.002
Ages	1.96(28)	2.20(131)	-1.19	0.235
\$10,000 to \$25,999:				
Education	2.33(111)	2.24(232)	0.86	0.389
Ages	1.96(111)	1.89(232)	0.76	0.448
\$26,000 and above:				
Education	3.00(57)	2.66(101)	2.02	0.046
Ages	2.04(57)	2.22(101)	-1.51	0.128

Ages: Table XXIX shows that dual wives between the ages 18 and 30 and over 45 have a higher level of education. Also, total family income for dual wives over 45 is greater than total family income for housewives over 45.

Education, Income, and Ages: Table XXX shows that dual wives have a higher level of education, a higher level of family income, and are younger than housewives.

Comparison of 1979 Data with Chitaravimol's 1976 Data: Table XXXI summarizes the variables by demographic breakdowns which showed significant differences between dual wives and housewives for both the 1979 data of this study and the 1976 data of Chitaravimol's study. Direct comparisons for some income and age brackets are difficult because the breakdowns in the two studies are different. Chitaravimol (1979) broke the 1976 data for income into lower income equals less than \$7,000, middle income equals \$7,000 to \$13,999, and high income equals \$14,000 and above. While some of the significant differences were common to both studies, there were many changes. This possibly indicates influences of external factors not detected in the study or changes in the environment over time.

TABLE XXIX

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
EDUCATION AND INCOME BY AGES

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Ages 18 to 30:				
Education	2.60(68)	2.30(174)	2.15	0.032
Income	1.78(68)	1.63(174)	1.28	0.203
Ages 31 to 45:				
Education	2.40(94)	2.40(149)	0.06	0.953
Income	1.94(94)	1.89(149)	0.38	0.704
Ages 46 and above:				
Education	2.36(72)	1.94(271)	3.06	0.002
Income	1.64(72)	1.22(271)	2.98	0.003

TABLE XXX

MEAN SCORES ON QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURES
FOR DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES -
EDUCATION, INCOME, AND AGES

CLASSIFICATION	DUAL WIVES	HOUSE- WIVES	T VALUE	TWO - TAIL PROBABILITY
Education	2.48(234)	2.16(599)	3.57	0.000
Income	1.80(234)	1.50(599)	3.85	0.000
Ages	2.02(234)	2.15(599)	-1.97	0.049

TABLE XXXI
 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES
 BETWEEN DUAL WIVES AND HOUSEWIVES
 WITH 1979 AND 1976 DATA

VARIABLE	1979	1976
boring to interesting	total sample ages 31-45	high school high income ages 18-29 ages 60 and above
easy to hard	college degree(s) ages 31-45 total sample	high school some college low income middle income high income ages 30-59
useless to worthwhile	less than high school total sample	ages 30-59
friendly to lonely		low income middle income
full to empty	some college	high school some college high income ages 30-59
discouraging to hopeful	high school high income ages 31-45 total sample	
disappointing to rewarding		college degree
brings out the best in me to doesn't give me much chance	some college ages 18-30	some college college degree ages 30-59
neighborhood	middle income	high income ages 30-59
life in USA	college degree(s) ages 18-30	some college

TABLE XXXI (Continued)

VARIABLE	1979	1976
your education	ages 46 and above	college degree
job as a housewife	college degree(s) middle income ages 18-30 total sample	(unavailable)
job	(unavailable)	ages 18-30 college degree
ways you spend your spare time	less than high school ages 46 and above total sample	
health	ages 46 and above total sample	less than high school
standard of living	high school high income total sample	
savings and investments	high school	
friendships		high school
family life		college degree
life as a whole	some college	

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

In light of the conflicting and inconclusive results of past research, the main purpose of this report was to determine the significant differences in the quality of life between working wives and housewives. These differences were looked for in the total sample and also by demographic classification. Education, age, and income moderated the results.

This study used the 1979 State of Oklahoma Survey as its data base. Through the use of a SPSS computer program, pooled variance estimate T-Tests were computed to determine if differences between groups were significant.

This study found that there are some significant differences between dual wives and housewives in their perceptions of quality of life when looking at specific variables and demographics.

While not all variables considered were significant, all of the significant variables dealing with feelings about present life supported the viewpoint that dual wives have a more interesting, harder, worthwhile, full, hopeful and enabling life. While these were not significant in every demographic classification, they do give credence

for the idea that dual wives have a more satisfying life.

The variables dealing with the general life satisfaction were not as conclusive as the variables about present life satisfaction. Some of these variables indicate that the housewives are more satisfied for many of the demographic groups. The housewives are more satisfied with their neighborhood, life in the United States, housekeeping, spare time, standard of living, and savings and investments. The dual wives are more satisfied with their education, health and life as a whole. It appears that the older dual wives are more satisfied with mental and physical aspects of their lives while younger housewives are more satisfied with their environment.

Dual wives with less than a high school education tend to be younger. Dual wives with college degrees have a higher total family income than housewives with college degrees. The dual wives in the upper and lower income groups showed a higher level of education than housewives in the same groups. Finally, dual wives under 46 had a higher level of education than housewives under 46. The dual wives in this same age group also had a higher level of family income.

From this analysis, it can be said that no simple differences exist. Even though many significant differences exist in some of the demographic categories, this study cannot reject the null hypotheses. While some of the significant differences lend support to the

alternative hypotheses, there were not enough significant variables to totally reject the null hypotheses. Each variable measured a different facet of life satisfaction and one or two variables out of fifteen does not provide substantial support to reject the null hypotheses. The one global variable, satisfaction with life as a whole, did partly reject the null hypothesis that high educated dual wives and high educated housewives were equally satisfied. However, the variable was only significant for dual wives with some college, not those with college degrees.

While the null hypotheses could not be rejected, many significant differences were found. These differences indicate that not only must each group of wives be classified by demographics, but the specific aspects of the quality of life must also be stated. This will enable researchers to be more accurate in judging the effects of outside work on the quality of life of wives.

FOOTNOTES

¹Gladys Evans Harbeson, Choice and Challenge for the American Woman (Cambridge, 1967), p. 23.

²U.S. Bureau of Census, Current Population Reports, A Statistical Portrait of Women in the United States: 1978, Special Studies, Series P-23, 100, p. 42.

³Ibid., p. 47.

⁴Ibid., p. 38.

⁵Ibid.

⁶Ibid., p. 39.

⁷Ibid., p. 59.

⁸Myra Marx Ferree, "Working-Class Jobs: Housework and Paid Work as Sources of Satisfaction," Social Problems, XXIII (1976), p. 432.

⁹Ibid., p. 433.

¹⁰A. Campbell, P. E. Converse, and W. L. Rodgers, The Quality of American Life: Perceptions, Evaluations, and Satisfaction (New York, 1976), p. 31.

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